**“The Poured Out Life”**

Going deeper in Philippians 2:17 & 1:3-11

**INTRODUCTION**

The Apostle Paul is writing this letter to the church in Philippi from prison probably in Rome. If you were writing a letter from prison to a church you started, and loved very much what would you want them to know?

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

Philippians 2:17 – But even as I am being poured out like a drink offering as a sacrifice and service flowing out of and because of your faith I am filled with joy and rejoice together with you.

Philippians 1: 3 - I really feel compelled to give thanks every time I think of you. 4 I always include all of you in my prayers and those prayers for you are soaked with joy. 5 All of this flows out of our deep partnership in the good news of Jesus Christ from the very beginning up to the present. 6 There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that He who began a good work in you will bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears. 7 It is only right for me to think of all of you in this way and to hold you in my heart because you stuck with me in this partnership while I was thrown in jail and defending and validating the good news of Jesus Christ. You have been partners with me sharing in God’s generous grace. 8 God knows how much I love you with the amazing love of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer: that your love will flourish more and more becoming a knowledgeable and discerning love 10 so you can prove with your lives what is pure and blameless until the day of Christ 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which come through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Paul is in prison probably in Rome when he is writing this. Most believe he died in Rome. From what you read in 2:17 how is he facing possibly his last days on earth? How were the Philippian Christians part of his sacrifice and service?

2. What words would you use to describe how the Apostle Paul felt about the church in Philippi?

3. When you think of your journey of faith with the Lord Jesus who are the people past and present who you pray for with thanksgiving and joy?

4. What is the good work that God is currently doing in your life? Will you trust Him in it?

5. Who do you consider partners in the gospel? How does that effect your prayers for them?

6. How should our partnership in the good news of Jesus Christ impact our generosity? What are some of the ways this generosity can be expressed?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Give thanks to Lord for those who shared your journey of faith. Name them.

\*Pray for the ministry that the Lord has called you to and those you are partners with in that ministry.

\*Ask the Lord to help you to grow today and this week in a knowledgeable and discerning love.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.* The Apostle Paul is thankful for the Philippian church and their partnership in spreading the life-changing news of Jesus Christ. They have poured into his life and he has poured into theirs because Jesus Christ has poured life into them. Who are the people the Lord is calling you to pour into? How will you do that this week?